

# 3.5 GHz: Census Tract Licenses & Rural Broadband

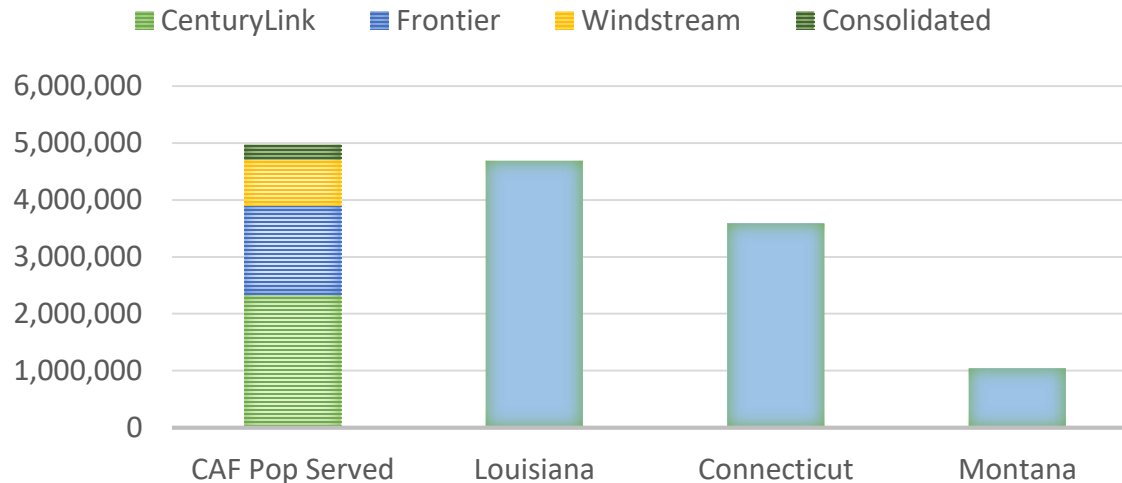
Docket 17-258

- Given the scale of our CAF investments, access to spectrum in rural areas could enable Frontier to magnify those investments to:
  - Provide faster speeds; and
  - Serve more customers.
- Census tract licenses will best offer Frontier and other ILECs meaningful opportunities to participate.

# Commitment to Rural Broadband

- As part of the Connect America Fund (“CAF”) Program, Frontier is expanding broadband to 775,000 rural homes and businesses (roughly 1.5 million people) and investing approximately \$2 billion.
- Together with the other ILECs who have also supported rural census tracts, we are investing more than \$6 billion to bring broadband to approximately 2.5 million homes and businesses (roughly 5 million people) through Year-End 2020.

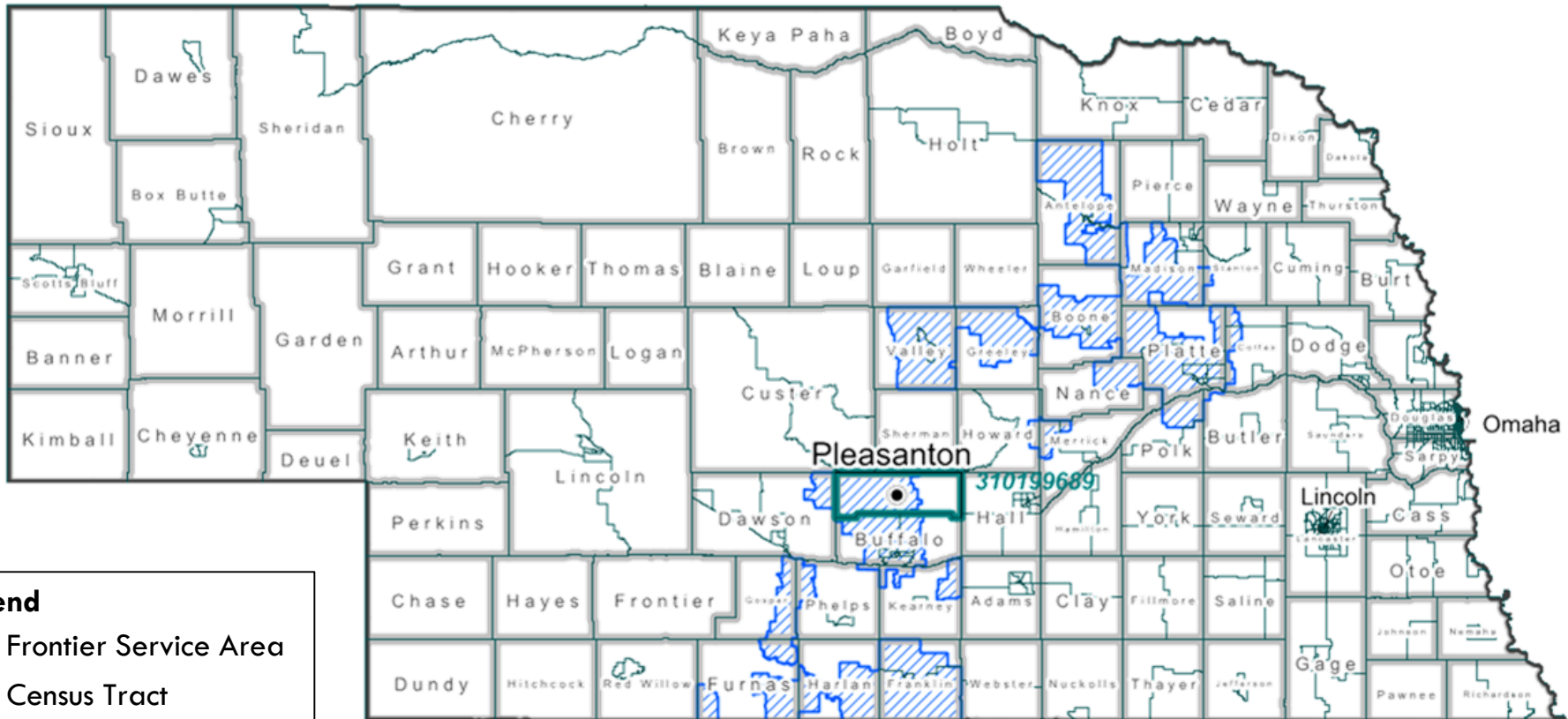
## POPULATION COMPARISON



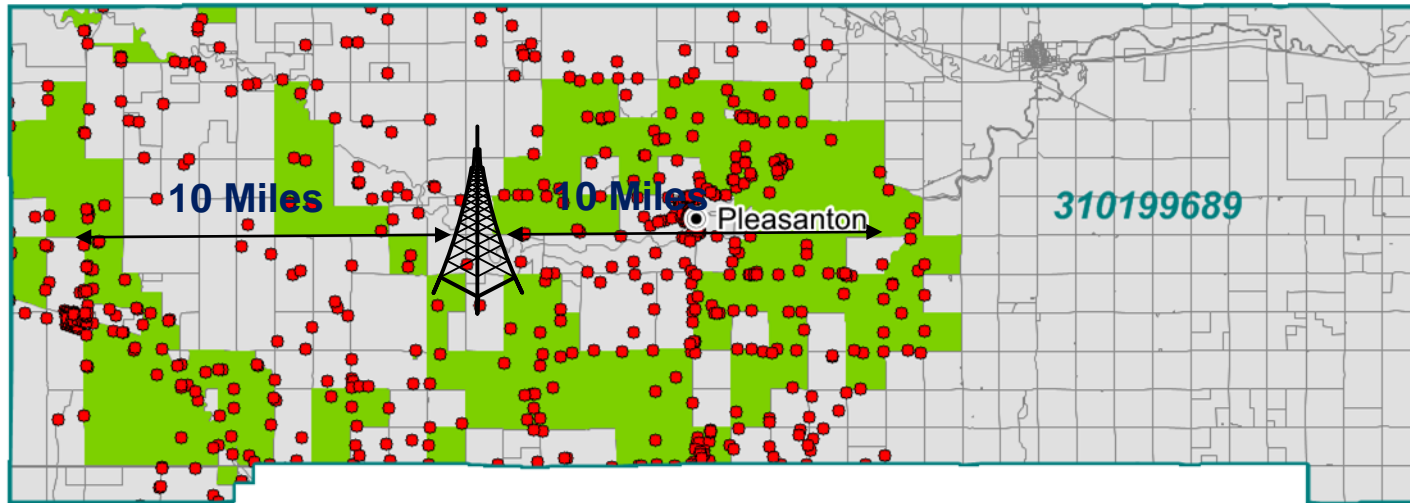
- Frontier is an active member of the CBRS Alliance.
- Frontier is testing fixed wireless in very rural CAF areas and is exploring 3.5 GHz deployments.
- By the end of this year, Frontier plans to serve at least 30,000 homes and businesses with fixed wireless.

- Even counties can still be too large in many rural areas.
  - Census tracts are relatively large in rural areas.
  - Additionally, counties may artificially favor one type of competitor over another.
- Preserving census tracts in rural areas will promote rural broadband deployment.
- Secondary markets are too costly and slow to enable rural deployments.

# Fixed Wireless Census Tract Case Study: Pleasanton, NE



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## Tract Information:

- Area: 450 sq miles
- Width: 37 miles
- Height: 13 miles
- Households: >770

## Potential Deployment (subject to testing):

- 30 MHz of 3.5 GHz spectrum
- Up to 500 HHs
- Up to 25/3 Mbps
- 10 mile radius

## Legend

- Households
- 2010 Census Tract
- 2010 Census Block
- CAF II Census Blocks